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SAPC-25672
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17 April 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director of Development and Procurement

SUBJECT : Questions Concerning Electronics Equipment

REFERENCES :

- A. Memorandum for Project Director dated 28 Feb. from Acting ELINT Offr - SAPC-24836
- B. Memorandum for Project Director dated 27 Feb. from Acting ELINT Staff Officer - SAPC-24684
- C. Memorandum for Project Director dated 28 Feb. from Acting ELINT Staff Officer - SAPC-24835
- D. Memorandum for Project Director dated 28 Mar. from Acting ELINT Staff Officer - SAPC-25692
- E. Memorandum for Project Director dated 3 April from Project Director of Development and Procurement - SAPC-26087
- F. Memorandum for Project Director dated 1 April from Acting ELINT Staff Officer - SAPC-25913
- G. Memorandum for Project Director dated 1 April from Acting ELINT Staff Officer - SAPC-26001

1. This memorandum will serve to note my reactions to the references as expressed to you in our conversation on this subject on 17 April.

a. Re Reference A. I understand the recommendation was followed and assume that since System IV (Serial number 103) was not shipped until about 10 April, time was afforded for further efforts to improve the sensitivity of receivers 46 and 47. I would appreciate learning how much progress was accomplished toward this objective and generally in the elimination of the faults noted in Reference A, by the time 103 was shipped.

b. Re Reference B. It was our recollection that the recommendation was concurred in and that the development of a kit was authorized to permit the field modification proposed in the Reference. I would appreciate learning the status of this modification and whether any additional funds would have to be obligated for this purpose in the current Fiscal Year in excess of the Contracting Officer's latest estimates.

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-2-

c. Re Reference C. It is my understanding that no decision has yet been made on the recommendation for an additional preamplifier for Bands 1A and 1B. Presumably this matter should now be reviewed in the light of what was actually accomplished prior to the shipment of Serial Number 103. I would like in due time to receive [] renewed or amended recommendation.

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d. Re Reference D. It would seem that the effect on aircraft performance of the Ramshorn antennas and their effect on the radar cross-section of the U-2 should both be measured before we will be in a position to determine the need for the proposed throw-away ventral antenna. It may be desirable, however, to seek a proposal for the recommended ventral antenna while awaiting the outcome of these tests but to withhold an authorization for the actual construction of a new antenna until the results of the tests are in. I would appreciate [] recommendations on this matter.

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e. Re Reference E. I fully recognize that all the work cannot be completed at Ramo-Wooldridge by 1 May and have no desire to enforce a cut-off that would be wasteful or that would deprive us of truly needed items. Our financial needs will be adequately met. I think, if the Contracting Officer can obtain a pretty hard estimate of any further funds required to be obligated during the current year. I wonder if we should not indicate to the contractor (if we have not already done so) that we are in no position to obligate additional funds and that if over-runs are contemplated we will have to consider still further cut-backs. Whatever the method I feel it is most important that we reduce to an absolute minimum the probability of having additional unforeseen financial burdens placed upon us by R-W. I am not willing to make an affirmative decision on any of the items covered in this memorandum without a clear indication either (a) that the cost has already been allowed for in our latest statement of financial position, or (b) what the estimated cost will be so that we can decide whether funds will be available.

f. Re Reference F. I concur with the recommendations in the Reference.

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SECRET

-3-

g. Re Reference G. I concur with this recommendation too but since it is dependent on the acquiescence of FOG, I assume this will have to be negotiated out.

2. It seems to me most desirable to meet preferably with prior to 25 April to review the foregoing matters as well as others in this field that require action or decision.

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RM
RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

RM B:djm

1-Addressee

2-Acting ELINT Offr

3-Operations - Attn

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4-Pro. Dir. Chrono

5-Project Contracting Officer

6-Pro. Director FU

7-Pro. Chrono RI

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